

<http://www.christianpost.com/article/20090618/uscirf-disappointed-over-blocked-visit-to-india/index.html>

NEW DELHI – The **U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF)** on Wednesday voiced disappointment over the Indian government's failure to issue visas to its delegation to enter the South Asian country.

A **USCIRF** delegation had planned to meet with officials, religious leaders and civil society activists to discuss religious freedom conditions but was again denied visas. Their first attempt to visit the country failed in 2001. Their June 12 visit would have been the Commission's first to India.

“We are particularly disappointed by the new Indian government's refusal to facilitate an official U.S. delegation to discuss religious freedom issues and government measures to counter communal violence, which has a religious component,” **said Commission chair Felice D. Gaer.**